

September 12, 2019

At the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen/women of the Town of Canton held at the Walter Clark Board Chambers, September 12, 2019 at 6:30pm with Mayor Smathers and Aldermen/women Mull, Hamlett and Smith present, the following proceedings were held.

A. Call to Order

Mayor Smathers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Mayor Smathers stated that the Manager, Assistant Manager, Finance Officer, and Town Attorney were present.

C. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Smathers called on Mrs. Pam Kearse to give the Invocation. Mayor Smathers called on the Veterans that were in attendance to lead the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Approval of Minutes: August 22, 2019

Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the August 22, 2019 minutes as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

E. Mayor Comments

Mayor Smathers thanked Staff for a successful Labor Day Festival having record numbers in attendance. Mayor Smathers stated that the musical entertainment was outstanding and enjoyed by all.

Mayor Smathers recognized that Alex Johnson was doing an excellent job with the plants and landscaping throughout Town, even working weekends to have everything beautiful for the Labor Day crowds. Mayor Smathers stated that he had received numerous comments about how nice everything looked.

F. Aldermen/women Comments

Alderwoman Smith stated that the Labor Day Festival was an awesome event and that she had received numerous

compliments on the event. Alderwoman Smith stated that the event ran seamlessly and thanked staff for all their work.

Alderwoman Smith encouraged everyone to attend the fundraiser baked spaghetti dinner to benefit the Canton Senior Center on September 27, 2019 in the Canton Armory. Alderwoman Smith attended one of the 9/11 events stating that it was great to get to thank the emergency personnel and remember those lost in tragic events that happened on September 11th.

Alderwoman Mull stated that the Labor Day Festival was the best to date and thanked the staff for all their work in preparing and presenting the festival.

Alderwoman Mull stated that she attended a 9/11 remembrance event and thanked all those involved for their efforts in hosting the event.

Alderman Hamlett echoed all the comments on the success for Labor Day and thanked Chief Gaddis for maintaining the pace of the parade. Alderman Hamlett asked when the numbers for Labor Day and an update would be presented to the Board.

Alderman Hamlett stated that the Board was served well at the 9/11 event by Mayor Pro-Tem Mull stating her words on behalf of the Board were very much appreciated.

Alderman Hamlett commented on the importance of the Constitution also stating that the Constitution is a guarantee throughout the United States that we have a participatory form of government. Alderman Hamlett handed out a copy of the Constitution of the United States and encouraged everyone to read it.

G. Public Comments

Mr. Tim Sheppard stated that he was running for the vacant seat on the Board and was in attendance to familiarize himself with the procedures of the Board meeting.

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Burrell presented the cash report.

Manager Burrell reported that he had received one bid for the Newfound Street sidewalk project and is in the process of trying

to get one more bid for the project but at this time it would probably be completed in house.

Manager Burrell stated that the American Red Cross and the Town of Canton will be hosting a blood drive in the Canton Armory on October 3, 2019.

Manager Burrell made the Board aware that the Swearing in Ceremony has been tentatively set for December 12, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Colonial Theatre. Manager Burrell asked that the members mark their calendars for this event.

Manager Burrell commented that the Ribbon cutting for the Pink Cactus Salon went well also stating that it is a good addition to the Town.

I. Old Business

1. Donation Request from DAV sponsorship.

Mr. Paul Taylor stated that the donation request would be for a van to take veterans to and from the VA hospital for appointments and medical treatment. Alderwoman Smith inquired the cost of the van. Mr. Fred Underwood stated that the goal is \$20,000 dollars. Mr. Underwood stated that if the monies were not met then International would provide the balance before applying in October. Mr. Underwood stated that all monies raised would benefit the Veterans of Haywood County. Mayor Smathers thanked the gentlemen for all they do for these Veterans in the community. Alderman Hamlett asked the Board to be mindful that these monies must last the entire fiscal year not to undercut the group, but to make sure that the Board have time to consider the request and decide the best way to help this group. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to table the request to a later date. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor to table the request.

J. New Business

1. Memorandum of Understanding Transportation Agreement between the Town of Canton and the Haywood County's Sheriff Department

Manager Burrell recognized Chief Deputy Jeff Haynes of the Haywood County Sheriff's Office and Police Chief Shawn Gaddis with the Town of Canton. Chief Gaddis stated that this

agreement helps with the involuntary commitment process and asked Chief Deputy Haynes to explain the agreement to the Board. Chief Deputy Haynes stated that this agreement is based on General Statute 122C-251 which states that after a person is examined it is the Sheriff's responsibility to take the person to a mental health facility and after their stay return them to their home County. This memorandum would go into effect October 1, 2019. The Board thanked both for their ability to work together for the betterment of the Community. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the Memorandum as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

2. BCA Yearbook Ad Request:

Manager Burrell presented a request from Bethel Christian Academy for a yearbook sponsorship. Manager Burrell stated that this item was on the agenda previously with a request to see a yearbook from the past and was now back on the agenda. Mayor Smathers called for a motion. No motion.

3. Proclamation: Constitution Week

Manager Burrell presented a proclamation recognizing the 232nd anniversary of the Constitution of the United States also marking September 17th through September 23rd, 2019 constitution week. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the proclamation as presented. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. Motion approved.

4. Community Garden Update

Mr. Ray Sheppard started off thanking the Board for allowing the community garden on Town property. Mr. Sheppard reported to the Board that the garden is helping to bring the community together. Mr. Sheppard reported that work days were Wednesdays at 9am. Mr. Sheppard presented a slideshow of pictures of the development and the people that have helped with the project. Mr. Sheppard stated that all the proceeds from the garden would go to support the Community Kitchen.

5. Co-Sponsorship Request: VFW Ball

Manager Burrell introduce Mr. Kyle Norris Junior Vice Commander of the canton VFW. Mr. Norris stated that they would like to have military ball in the Canton Armory on November 9, 2019. Mr. Norris stated that there is no other

military ball in Western North Carolina. The monies that are raised during the ball will help with heating assistance for veterans in the winter months. Mr. Norris is asking for monetary support for the facility. Manager Burrell stated that an ABC special event permit will need to be obtained by the VFW. The group will have drink tickets for sale. The insurance has been provided along with the non-profit status. Manager Burrell stated that staff fees and security would need to be provided by the applicant. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the co-sponsorship and rental fee waiver for the VFW Military Ball. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

6. Set Board Work Session

Manager Burrell asked the Board if September 26, 2019 at 5:30 would work for them to discuss the projects regarding the Cruso Endowment Fund. Alderwoman Smith made a motion to set the Board work session for September 26, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. Pisgah High School Football Request

Manager Burrell introduced Brett Chappell, Pisgah High School Football Coach. Coach Chappell reported that they had one big fund raiser with the discount cards from local businesses. Coach Chappell stated that this help to offset cost of uniforms etc. and that all a kid must purchase is their cleats. Coach Chappell is grateful for the partnership between the school and the Town. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to give \$500.00 dollars to Pisgah Athletics. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. Alderman Hamlett asked that the women athletics be served with the donations as well. Coach Chappell also made the Board aware that a female student would be suited up and be the kicker for the football team soon. Coach Chappell stated that he considers the cheerleaders, band, and team are a group not individuals and they represent the school well. All members voted in favor of the motion.

K. Closed Session: Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (3) (6)

Alderwoman Smith made a motion to enter closed session at 7:55 p.m. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. After discussion, Alderwoman Smith made a motion to enter open session at 8:13 p.m. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the closed session minutes from August 23, 2019 as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve the minutes as presented.

L. Adjournment

The next Special Called meeting will be on Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room and the Regularly Scheduled meeting will be September 26, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Chambers. There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 8.15 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk